Czar of All the Russias and His People Are in a Silent Struggle

Both Classes and Masses Agree on Beating Germans

All Factions United Against Autocracy, but Popular Government Is Suppressed Following Duma's Magna Charta Demanding Full Political and Religious, Liberty and Justice for Jews and Peasants,

Reactionaries Are Now in Control

Court Party Would Submit and Then Form Alliance With Prussia and Austria Against Liberal Powers, but Emperor's Pledges and Fury of Russian Populace Make Move Impossible.

By JOHN L. BALDERSTON:

(Copyright, 1916, by The McClure Newspaper Syndroite-LONDON, Jan. 3. For many weeks past the aftention of the world has been divided between the kalendescope of the Balkans, conscription in England the formation of the affect war council peace debates in the telebring the atlatude of Washington toward Coffminy and Austrian intrigues in America. Russia has been wellagh forgotten excepting for references to her coming spring of fensive and speculations concerning her manifions erisis.

Never since belography vame into common use has a great Euro poon country so shrouded itself in mystery as Russia has done for the past month. Not a single telegram other than official and scini official communiques, was permitted to leave the empire for twenty-two days in December. All sufgoing made were stopped, No one was allowed to leave the country excepting a few officials

The veil has been lifted a little way a mighty little way within the past few days, and travelers, after being detained for weeks, have reached London. This means, in the view of the intogracy, that immediate dauger of a revolution has been averted. The estuation romains fundamentally unchanged. The silent strugsle between the exir and his people continues, although the tension has relaxed for the moment and the wild runners which occulated throughout western Europe during the twenty two days when com-

minication was severed have been proved unitries.

in Busia, excepting their ewa, forms which the, declaration laid

thics in the waters to The important passage of a bill specifical Scuibboully for the autonomy of the kingdom of

connection with national defense, the equipment of the army, security for the wounded, settlement of the lot of the refugee and other questions in-directly connected with the war." It will be noted that this demand.

while estensibly leaving question "directly" connected with the war is the hands of the government, se-cured control over the "equipment of the army," and hence over the fihances necessary for carrying on the war. This was the point of the strug-gle between Charles I, and his parliament over who should govern Eng

As has been said, the exar dissolved the duma when the "block was formed and the Magna Charta drawn up. For several days an out-break was feared; a general strike began in many cities, and even mu-nition workers went out. Troops had been concentrated in Petrograd and Museuw before the dissolution was announced and nothing happened. The striking workers, urged by their leaders to go back for the sake of the army at the front, returned to work and of their own accord put on so much overtime that in a week they were able to boast that their protes had not cost the army a single shell

Wanting Delay.

During the succeeding weeks and up to the present time the autocracy has played for delay. It was an-nounced when the "block" was formed and the duma dismissed that the prorogation was temporary and that parliament would be reconvened November 39. During November the November 39. During November the provincial parliaments unanimously backed up the action of the "block" in the duma, and a great congress of zemstvos in Moscow was called for December. There is little doubt that if such congress had met it would have attempted to bring pressure on the government to recovene the duma, and the congress has been ordered "indefinitely postponed."

and the congress has been ordered "indefinitely postponed."

The opinion of Laberals that the czar had no intention of calling the duma together was justified when on November 30 the government again postponed the session. The pretext given was that the budget commission of the lower house had not prepared its reports in time. What has pared its reports in time. What hap-pened was that the government sumped 52 estimates on the commis-sion for consideration a month later than they are usually submitted, and only a few weeks before the duma

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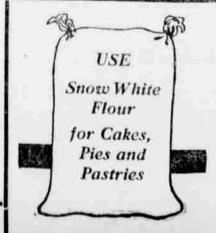
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